



LIVE SHOW REVIEW: NIC TUOHEY NAVIGATES THE THEMES, SOUNDS, AND PANELS OF CTM'S 'NEW GEOGRAPHIES' FESTIVAL 2016 by NIC TUOHEY



Berlin's CTM, Festival for Adventurous Music and Art, is done for another year. 2016's theme was 'New Geographies' and the festival's programming of music and sound practices took place in several highly regarded Berlin venues with themes of globalisation and digitisation providing something of a sub-plot. CTM granted concerts, performance art pieces, workshops and lectures highlighting hyper-cultural sound forms that took in non-Western perspectives, queer and minority positions, pop culture identity politics, online music cultures, in addition to examining and scrutinising materialistic theories.



American Anna Homler's Breadwoman character (a woman of elderly appearance with a face full of dough played by Natsuko Kono) was revived for CTM 2016. Her performance art piece, which some of you may have read about in recent times, is due through no small part of RVNG Intl.'s reissue of her 1985 album *Breadwoman & Other Tales*. Surrounded naturally by bread loaves and flour dispensers, she engaged in a series of peculiar and entertainingly bizarre acts such as mimicking a baseball slugger aiming for a homerun, some funky slow-motion dance moves (while balancing a dispenser) to all round acts of loveable strangeness.

Accompanied by Homler herself on vocals, she sang with a captivating and powerful range in her exotic, new language with sound effects utilising found objects such as rubber gloves, balloons and toys among other objects. She was accompanied not by original collaborator Steve Moshier, rather UK experimentalist Steven Warwick aka Heatsick, whose Casio keyboard was processed by effects, as well as adding some of his own peculiar vocal drones, creating a gently mysterious and hypnotic musical accompaniment.